

House Resolution 1477

By: Representatives Drenner of the 85th, Henson of the 86th, Davis of the 87th, Evans of the 83rd, Stephenson of the 90th, and others

A RESOLUTION

1 Supporting the passage of HR 1384; and for other purposes.

2 WHEREAS, 1.4 million individuals in Georgia lack health insurance, making it one of the
3 least insured states in the country, with both urban and rural populations affected by poor
4 access to healthcare; and

5 WHEREAS, state funding for community health, Medicaid, Peachcare, public health,
6 behavioral health, and developmental disabilities was \$4.8 billion in 2019, which still left
7 over 20 percent of Georgians uninsured and millions more underinsured, unable to cover
8 high deductible and copays; and

9 WHEREAS, Georgia experienced the highest maternal mortality rate of any state in the
10 country in 2018 with a 42 percent increase in death from 2006, which continues to increase
11 today and is more than twice as high for black women; and

12 WHEREAS, Georgia ranks second to last among states in access to mental healthcare,
13 resources, and insurance, with a 35 percent increase in drug overdose deaths and a 25 percent
14 increase in suicides between 2012 and 2016; and

15 WHEREAS, multiple studies have ranked Georgia's healthcare system as one of the worst
16 in the nation with high infant mortality rates, medical provider shortages in rural Georgia,
17 and lackluster healthcare outcomes; and

18 WHEREAS, some 240,000 Georgians make too little to get financial help to buy health
19 insurance, do not qualify for Medicaid, and thus are stuck in the coverage gap with no
20 affordable health insurance; and

21 WHEREAS, the proposed Medicaid waivers will not adequately and responsibly address this
22 need; and

23 WHEREAS, our current healthcare system largely ties health insurance coverage to
24 employment, hurting vulnerable workers, the underemployed, the growing "gig" economy,
25 and limiting small business creation; and

26 WHEREAS, the Medicare for All Act of 2019, HR 1384, introduced in the United States
27 House of Representatives, would provide publically accountable national health insurance
28 for every person in the United States for all necessary medical care, including prescription
29 drugs; hospital, surgical, and outpatient services; primary, preventative, and specialty care;
30 mental health and substance abuse treatment; emergency services; comprehensive
31 reproductive care; and dental, vision, and long-term care, making it far superior and more
32 affordable than existing commercial private health plans; and

33 WHEREAS, Congressman Hank Johnson and Congressman John Lewis are among the 118
34 co-sponsors of HR 1384.

35 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
36 the members of this body support the passage of HR 1384.

37 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized
38 and directed to make appropriate copies of this resolution available for distribution to the
39 public and the press.